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from them express the juice, making the dry pulp into cakes, and saving them for winter; the wine they drink about their camp-fires, until the midnight is merry with their revelries.

"They gather the seeds of many plants, as sunflowers, golden-rods, and grasses. For this purpose they have large conical baskets which hold two or more bushels. The women carry them on their backs, suspended from their foreheads by broad straps, and with a smaller one in the left hand, and a willow-woven fan in the right, they walk among the grasses and sweep the seed into the smaller basket, which is emptied, now and then, into the larger, until it is full of seeds and chaff; then they winnow out the chaff, and roast the seeds. They roast these curiously: they put the seeds with a quantity of red-hot coals into a willow tray, and, by rapidly and dexterously shaking and tossing them, keep the coals aglow, and the seed tray from burning. As if by magic, so skilled are the crones in this work, they roll the seeds to one side of the tray as they are roasted, and the coals to the other. Then they grind the seeds into a fine flour, and make it into cakes and mush."

A chapter follows containing A Report on a Trip to the Mouth of the Dirty Devil River, by A. H. Thompson, which is succeeded by the second part, On the Physical Features of the Valley of the Colorado, while the third part is zoological in its nature, containing treatises by Dr. Coues and Mr. Goode.

COPE'S CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BATRACHIANS AND REPTILES.¹—This is the first of a new series of works published by the Department of the Interior for the United States National Museum, under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution. Besides the check-list which will prove useful to students, Professor Cope enters into an elaborate discussion of the geographical distribution of the vertebrates, particularly the batrachians and reptiles, of the northern hemisphere. The author divides the earth's fauna into six realms, those of the northern hemisphere being the realm of the new world (Nearctic) and that of the old world (Palearctic). However well these terms (first proposed, we believe, by Dr. Sclater) may apply to the vertebrates, when we come to the insects and marine invertebrates the terms "Nearctic" and "Palearctic," as applied to the circumpolar region, seem to us to be somewhat artificial, though applying well to the north temperate hemisphere. The essay, however, will be found exceedingly useful and timely.

KIDDER'S NATURAL HISTORY OF KERGUELEN ISLAND.²—The second Bulletin of the United States National Museum contains the notes on the birds of Kerguelen Island made by Dr. Kidder while attached as natu-

¹ *Check-List of North American Batrachia and Reptilia*. By EDWARD D. COPE. Bulletin of the United States National Museum. I. Washington, D. C. 1875. 8vo, pp. 104.

² *Contributions to the Natural History of Kerguelen Island*. By J. H. KIDDER, M. D. Bulletin of the United States National Museum. II. Washington, D. C. 1875. 8vo, pp. 51.